

All my Best,

**Francis Parker**

A note from Principal Parker

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John Dewey Metropolitan High School

Go Bulldogs!

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*J.D. High’s mission is to facilitate an environment that promotes essential problem solving and critical thinking skills resulting in active community leaders.*

**Your Vote Counts at J.D. High!**

**Students! Be informed and prepared to vote on the school activities below!**

* **Prom Themes**
* **Guest Assembly Speakers**
* **Fundraiser Ideas**
* **Plants for Garden**

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J.D. High welcomes Michael Cobb to the Language Arts community. Mr. Cobb previously resided in Boston where he received his MA in Political Science and Education and was co-chair of the School Board from 2006-2010 in Zone 11. As the co-editor of *Education in Action: On Merging Students, Civics and Literature.* Mr. C brings to the table knowledge and passion for civic responsibility from a Language Arts perspective. Along with facilitating the 9th and 11th grade literature classes, Mr. Cobb will be the head coordinator of the school’s voting booths. An avid participant in theatre productions throughout his life, he looks to encourage students to go beyond the text and find an opportunity to “relate their personal experiences to each step of the protagonist” through local theater and literary readings.

J.D. Metropolitan High School’s progressive shift opened a multitude of doors for the Language Arts curricula. Acknowledging that each student is shaped by his or her experiences, units are designed to reach out and engage the individual learner. Students will enter the world prepared with an enduring understanding of the many possibilities literature provides, and the responsibility each citizen has to utilize them.

Each class will offer a variety of fiction and nonfiction pieces written by local authors, authors advocating social reform, members of Oregon State Legislature, and individually chosen authors of the students’ interests. This will allow students to investigate the ways literature relates to themselves and their environment.

Writing techniques will involve creative forms of expression, writing with a purpose and co-writing a play within a group. Students will research a political topic of personal interest to them and write a persuasive letter to their Senator. They will explain, in depth, their reasoning for the importance of their topic and suggestions the Senator should consider.

A freshman specific project will require students to design a reach-out program to a group of people they feel lacks access to rich, literary resources. This may be a hospital, retirement home, hospice, preschool -students will decide the highest need through research and inquiry. While teachers will be available to provide guidance, students will be in charge of contacting the business with their proposal and maintaining their program throughout the year.

As a Language Arts community, we desire to engage your students in every way. We are currently connecting with community members to establish possible day trips to Ashton’s Shakespeare Festival, Portland Center for Performing Arts and many more. After consulting with students, we will notify you of our day trip selections and dates. We warmly welcome any questions or comments or better your student’s education at J.D. High.

# What’s Happening in Language Arts?

Spotlight on Mr. Cobb

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Guest Speaker

What’s Happening in Social Studies

Spotlight on Mrs. Wellstone

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Lorem Ipsum

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Theory of Experience through Senior Project

Student and Parent Q&A

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